

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 253487

51
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 RSC-01 /032 R

DRAFTED BY TEXT SUPPLIED BY WHITE HOUSE

APPROVED BY NEA - EDWARD S. WALKER

S/S:REWOODS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 253487

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, US, LE

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM PRESIDENT FORD TO PRESIDENT FRANGIE

FOR AMBASSADOR

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING LETTER DATED NOVEMBER 15 FROM
PRESIDENT FORD TO PRESIDENT FRANGIE. IN PRESENTING LETTER
YOU MAY INDICATE OUR REGRET WE WERE UNABLE TO DELIVER
TEXT WHILE PRESIDENT FRANGIE WAS STILL IN U.S.

2. BEGIN TEXT.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

I HAVE LONG BEEN GRATIFIED BY THE TRADITION OF CLOSE,
FRIENDLY AND CONSTRUCTIVE TIES BETWEEN LEBANON AND THE
UNITED STATES AND I AM CONFIDENT THAT THESE RELATIONS CAN
BE STRENGTHENED FOR THE FUTURE. IT WAS MY STRONG HOPE
THAT OUR SCHEDULES WOULD HAVE PERMITTED YOU TO VISIT
WASHINGTON. ALTHOUGH MY SCHEDULE OF TRAVEL ABROAD PRE-
CLUDED A CONVENIENT MEETING WITH YOU AT THIS TIME, I LOOK
FORWARD VERY MUCH TO THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONFER WITH YOU IN
THE FUTURE. I BELIEVE THAT SUCH A MEETING WOULD BE
MUTUALLY ADVANTAGEOUS AND I THEREFORE WANT TO RE-EXTEND MY
INVITATION TO VISIT WASHINGTON AT AN EARLY CONVENIENT TIME.

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MR. PRESIDENT, I ALSO WANT TO TAKE THIS OCCASION TO AFFIRM TO YOU THE COMMITMENT OF MY GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE WITH ITS EFFORTS TO HELP BRING ABOUT A JUST, DURABLE AND FINAL SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST. I AM KEENLY AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE WHICH YOU ATTACH TO THIS GOAL AND WHAT IT WILL MEAN FOR LEBANON. IT IS MY HOPE THAT OUR TWO NATIONS WILL CONTINUE TO CONSULT CLOSELY IN THE PURSUIT OF A PERMANENT PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

WITH WARM BEST WISHES AND PRAYERS FOR YOUR SUCCESSFUL JOURNEY HOME.

SINCERELY,
GERALD R. FORD

END MESSAGE.

3. SIGNED ORIGINAL FOLLOWS BY POUCH. KISSINGER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 16 NOV 1974
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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30 JUN 2005

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To: BEIRUT
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